

All answers must be indicated on the MARK SHEET.

I Read the passage and answer the questions below.

It was late in 2015, and things were at an impasse. Some four years earlier, Taiwan's finance ministry had decided to legalize online sales of alcohol. To help it shape the new rules, the ministry had kicked off talks with alcohol merchants, e-commerce platforms, and social groups worried that online sales would make it easy for children to buy liquor. But since then they had all been talking past each other. The regulation had gotten nowhere.

That was when a group of government officials and activists decided to take the question to a new online discussion platform called "vTaiwan." Starting in early March 2016, about 450 citizens went to the vTaiwan site, proposed solutions, and voted on them.

Within a matter of weeks, they had formulated a set of recommendations. Online alcohol sales would be limited to a handful of e-commerce platforms and distributors; transactions would be by credit card only; and purchases would be collected at convenience stores, making it nearly impossible for a child to surreptitiously get hold of booze. By late April the government had incorporated the suggestions into a draft bill that it sent to parliament.

The deadlock "resolved itself almost immediately," says Colin Megill, the CEO and cofounder of "Pol.is," one of the open-source digital platforms vTaiwan uses to host discussion. "The opposing sides had never had a chance to actually interact with each other's ideas. When they did, it became apparent that both sides were basically willing to give the opposing side what it wanted."

Three years after its founding, vTaiwan hasn't exactly taken Taiwanese politics by storm. It has been used to debate only a couple of dozen bills, and the government isn't required to heed the outcomes of those debates. But the system has proved useful in finding consensus on deadlocked issues such as the alcohol sales law, and its methods are now being applied to a larger consultation platform, called "Join," that's being tried out in some local government settings. The question now is whether it can be used to settle bigger policy questions at a broader level—and whether it could be a model for other countries.

Taiwan might not seem like the most obvious place for a pioneering exercise in digital democracy. The island held its first direct presidential election only in 1996, after a century marked first by Japanese colonial rule and then by Chinese Nationalist martial law. But that oppressive past has also meant the Taiwanese have a history of taking to the streets to push back against heavy-handed government. In Taiwan's democratic era, it was a protest four years ago that planted the seed for this innovative political experiment.

The vTaiwan platform is a product of the 2014 Sunflower Movement, led by students and activists, which derailed an attempt by the Taiwan government to push through a trade agreement with China, which claims Taiwan as its territory. For more than three weeks the protesters occupied government buildings over the deal, which they felt would give China too much leverage over the Taiwanese economy.

In the aftermath, the Taiwan government invited Sunflower activists to create a platform through which it might better communicate with Taiwan's youth. A Taiwanese civic tech community known as g0v (pronounced "Gov Zero"), which had played a leading role in the Sunflower protests, built vTaiwan in 2015 and still runs it. The platform enables citizens, civil-society organizations, experts, and elected representatives to discuss proposed laws via its website, as well as in face-to-face meetings and hackathons. Its goal is to help policymakers make decisions that gain legitimacy through consultation.

"I would say vTaiwan is about civil society learning the functions of the government and, to a degree, collaborating," says Audrey Tang, Taiwan's digital minister. Tang, a famed hacker who helped the thousands of Sunflower protesters build and maintain their internal communications network, was appointed by the current president, Tsai Ing-wen, who won the 2016 election on a pledge of government

transparency.

What makes vTaiwan unique is its use of Pol.is. Pol.is, created by Megill and others in Seattle after the events of the Occupy Wall Street and the Arab Spring movements in 2011, lets anyone with an account post comments for debate and also upvote or downvote other people's comments. That may sound much like any other online forum, but two things make Pol.is unusual. The first is that you cannot reply to comments. "If people can propose their ideas and comments but they cannot reply to each other, then it drastically reduces the motivation for trolls to troll," Tang says. The second is that it uses the upvotes and downvotes to generate a kind of map of all the participants in the debate, clustering together people who have voted similarly. Although there may be hundreds or thousands of separate comments, like-minded groups rapidly emerge in this voting map, showing where there are divides and where there is consensus. People then naturally try to draft comments that will win votes from both sides of a divide, gradually eliminating the gaps. "The visualization is very, very helpful," Tang says. "If you show people the face of the crowd, and if you take away the reply button, then people stop wasting time on the divisive statements."

In one of vTaiwan's early successes, for example, the topic at issue was how to regulate the ride-hailing company Uber, which had—as in many places around the world—run into fierce opposition from local taxi drivers. As new people joined the online debate, they were shown and asked to vote on comments that ranged from calls to ban Uber or subject it to strict regulation, to calls to let the market decide, to more general statements such as "I think that Uber is a business model that can create flexible jobs."

Within a few days, the voting had coalesced to define two groups, one pro-Uber and one, about twice as large, anti-Uber. But then the magic happened: as the groups sought to attract more supporters, their members started posting comments on matters that everyone could agree were important, such as rider safety and liability insurance. Gradually, they refined them to garner more votes. The end result was a set of seven comments that enjoyed almost universal approval, containing such recommendations as "The government should set up a fair regulatory regime," "Private passenger vehicles should be registered," and "It should be permissible for a for-hire driver to join multiple fleets and platforms." The divide between pro- and anti-Uber camps had been replaced by consensus on how to create a level playing field for Uber and the taxi firms, protect consumers, and create more competition. Tang herself took those suggestions into face-to-face talks with Uber, the taxi drivers, and experts, which led the government to adopt new regulations along the lines vTaiwan had produced.

vTaiwan's website boasts that as of August 2018, it had been used in 26 cases, with 80 percent resulting in "decisive government action." As well as inspiring regulations for Uber and for online alcohol sales, it has led to an act that creates a space for small-scale technological experiments within Taiwan's otherwise tightly regulated financial system.

That the government isn't required to heed discussions on vTaiwan is the system's biggest shortcoming. vTaiwan is one of dozens of participatory governance projects around the world listed on CrowdLaw, a site run by the Governance Lab at New York University. Most of them, says Beth Noveck, the lab's director, suffer from the same problem: they're not binding on governments, which means it's also hard for them to gain credibility with citizens. Still, she says, Taiwan's experiment is "a step in the right direction." It's "far more institutionalized" than what's been seen elsewhere, she adds.

"Digital-economy issues are to be deliberated in an open, multistakeholder process that the government has the duty to support," Tang says. But what "support" means—how much weight lawmakers or the government will have to give to vTaiwan's deliberations—is still up in the air.

[Adapted from Chris Horton, "The Simple but Ingenious System Taiwan Uses to Crowdsource Its Laws," *MIT Technology Review* (August 21, 2018).]

- (1) Choose the ONE way to complete each of the following sentences that is CORRECT according to the passage.
- 1 vTaiwan
 - A had an influence on students in Taiwan who later formed a protest against the trade agreement between China and Taiwan.
 - B has been used to debate more than twenty bills, not all of which were passed by the government.
 - C influenced Chinese activists who later relocated their government to Taiwan.
 - D lets participants choose to read only comments written by those whose ideas are not of the opposing side.
 - E requires that the result of the debates reflect to some degree government policy.
 - 2 The Sunflower Movement
 - A refers to the student movement that resulted in the Nationalist government's relocation to Taiwan.
 - B was a consequence of the government's strict regulation of students' heavy usage of the Internet.
 - C was driven by students who saw the proposed 2014 trade deal between China and Taiwan as disadvantageous.
 - D was marked by three weeks of protests during which government buildings were destroyed.
 - E was triggered by the government's interference with student exchange between China and Taiwan.
 - 3 The vTaiwan platform
 - A gave rise to a regulation banning Uber services in Taiwan to protect local taxi drivers.
 - B generated concerns from insurance companies for ignoring safety issues of Uber services.
 - C provided opportunities to discuss safety issues related to Uber services.
 - D provoked criticism from local taxi drivers for siding with Uber services.
 - E triggered laws to protect part-time workers with national social security insurance.
 - 4 Pol.is is a forum
 - A on which participants comment on each others' posts about social issues.
 - B on which participants post opinions and vote on what others posted.
 - C that influenced the Occupy Wall Street and Arab Spring movements in 2011.
 - D where participants are usually divided into two camps according to their voting tendencies.
 - E where participants generally discourage each other from voting in order to avoid being placed on the voting map.
- (2) Choose the FOUR statements that are NOT true according to the passage. You may NOT choose more than FOUR statements.
- A A Taiwanese community named g0v started vTaiwan to promote discussion between people from different backgrounds and to exchange ideas on policies.
 - B According to Colin Megill, people are willing to bend their opinions to accommodate the opposing side.
 - C Audrey Tang supported the Sunflower Movement, which was led by students and activists.
 - D Pol.is is a forum that was created by Colin Megill and others in the United States around a decade ago.
 - E The discussion on the vTaiwan forum prevented Taiwan's Ministry of Finance from legalizing online sales of alcohol.
 - F The first presidential election in Taiwan was the result of the Sunflower Movement.
 - G The g0v community had a significant influence on the Arab Spring movement.
 - H Uber services have been banned because of the discussions which took place on vTaiwan.
 - I vTaiwan uses the Pol.is open-source discussion platform.

(3) Which ONE of the following sentences BEST summarizes the main point of the passage?

- A A small political movement by students may result in the overthrow of a government.
- B A Taiwanese digital platform called vTaiwan reflects Taiwan's history with Japanese rule in the 20th century followed by Nationalist martial law.
- C The operation of vTaiwan has shown that communication between individuals with opposing ideas helps people find common ground on important issues.
- D The Sunflower Movement has succeeded in securing a channel through which activists' ideas are guaranteed to be heeded by the government.
- E vTaiwan divides its community into several smaller communities within which each individual feels uncomfortable because everyone else has different values.

(4) Choose the BEST way to complete each of these sentences about how the underlined words are used in the passage.

1 Here "talking past each other" means

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A criticizing each other's pasts. | B failing to listen to one another. |
| C mistreating one another. | D speaking behind their back. |
| E speaking ill of each other. | |

2 Here "heavy-handed" means

- | | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| A arrogant. | B controlling. | C corrupted. | D slow-moving. | E unfair. |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-----------|

3 Here "trolls" means

- | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| A agitators. | B animals. | C comments. | D ghosts. | E politicians. |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|

4 Here "coalesced" means

- | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| A converged. | B created. | C divided. | D eliminated. | E summarized. |
|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|

II Read the passage and answer the questions below.

① Sports administration attracts attention only when things go wrong. A school sports day takes quite a bit of organizing; anything bigger, and the complications grow exponentially. Events such as Wimbledon or the World Cup are mechanisms of extraordinary complexity, in which most of the moving parts are human, and these events are, in their way, heroic feats of administration, bureaucracy, and human-management—and all that effort just goes to set the stage for the real action. The whole point of all this work is to go unnoticed. Being a sports administrator is a bit like being a spy, in that attracting attention is by definition a sign that something has gone amiss.

② The case of Caster Semenya has seen the administration of athletics go about as wrong as it possibly can. Semenya is the South African woman who won the 800 meters World Championships in Berlin in August 2009 at the age of 18, having improved her personal best by startling margins: in the final of the 800 meters African Junior Championships a few weeks previously, she did so by four seconds. The body which administers athletics, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), responded by making Semenya take a gender test, a fact which was immediately and unforgivably leaked to the world's press, causing planet-wide interest, speculation, and scandal. Another wave of scandal hit when the specific test results were leaked: they allegedly showed that Semenya had both male and female sexual characteristics, and an unusually high level of testosterone. The news caused justified outrage in South Africa, where the sports minister, Makhenkasi Stofile, said that if the IAAF were to ban Semenya, "it would be the third world war." It then emerged that Athletics South Africa had performed gender tests on Semenya before she competed in Berlin.

③ Hard cases make bad law. Gender tests were briefly a routine feature of international athletics, but now they are only ordered in specific instances, because they are both complicated to do—involving endocrinology, gynecology, and internal medicine—and complicated in their philosophical consequences. There was a happily naïve period in the late 1960s and 1970s, when it seemed as if gender testing was a straightforward issue, involving Soviet bloc athletes who were either men pretending to be women, or women whose coaches had made them take so many illegal hormones that they were turning into men. For example, a pair of Soviet sisters, Irina and Tamara Press, set 26 world records in the early 1960s, but didn't show up for sex testing when it was first introduced in 1966, and were never seen again. Photos of large, impossibly muscular and hairy Soviet bloc athletes were a routine feature of the sports pages. The high spot/low spot of this historical moment came at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, when every single female athlete except Princess Anne was subjected to a sex test which involved nothing more complicated than a grope. If the test was too demeaning for Princess Anne, it should have been too demeaning for all. In the face of the great Soviet hairy women offensive, however, that's not how the International Olympic Committee chose to see it.

④ Subsequent years saw the process of gender testing become more sophisticated. This was the point at which things became truly complicated, because the tests showed an unexpectedly large number of female athletes had naturally high levels of male hormones and quite a few had the male Y chromosome. The athletes in question had no idea, and the effect of "failing" a sex test in this way was often highly traumatic. Furthermore, it was always and only female athletes who went through this experience; there hasn't been a single instance of a male athlete turning out to be partly female. (Although as many men have inter-gender characteristics as do women, it's the male hormones, especially testosterone, which are useful in sports.) As a result, the IAAF stopped performing compulsory sex tests in 1992, and the IOC, the body that runs the Olympics, followed their example in 1999. The fact that the question of blurred gender distinctions is, in the athletics world, so well known, makes the IAAF all the more culpable in the Caster Semenya case.

⑤ Usually, women's sex chromosomes are XX and men's are XY. It is not, however, the chromosomes which directly control gender; the determining factor is the hormones which the chromosomes, taken together, instruct the body to make. In some cases, there is a discrepancy between the chromosomes and

the body's hormone kit; in particular, some women are chromosomally XY, but also produce a hormone which blocks the operation of the male hormones. They are women, but with a Y chromosome. Women affected with this condition are tall and lean and often very striking looking. Many of these women become actresses and models.

⑥ The XY condition is rare, but not that rare: one case in 15,000. That means that there are four thousand of these women in the U.K. alone. Globally there are 400,000. Since encountering this fact, I find I look at fashion photography in which the women don't look like anyone I've ever seen in real life in a new light. A speaker at the Liberal Democratic Party conference raised the issue of making magazines carry a sticker indicating when photographs have been digitally manipulated, to prevent young women from being oppressed by an unachievable idea of physical perfection. But what about the idea that the physical ideal they are sometimes being invited to admire is chromosomally XY? And that's just the specific case of this particular condition, which is Swyer syndrome, or XY gonadal dysgenesis. More general conditions involving gender abnormality affect one in three thousand people—which, globally, is two million people. There are more human beings who are in some degree intersex than there are Botswanans. I'm not sure what conclusion one should reach, other than that the lives of people with intersex conditions might be easier if this fact were more widely known, and that Ms. Semenya has been very harshly treated.

[Adapted from John Lanchester, "Caster Semenya," *London Review of Books* (October 8, 2009).]

(1) Choose the best way to complete the following sentences about Paragraphs ① to ⑥.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 In Paragraph ① the writer mainly | 4 In Paragraph ④ the writer mainly |
| 2 In Paragraph ② the writer mainly | 5 In Paragraph ⑤ the writer mainly |
| 3 In Paragraph ③ the writer mainly | 6 In Paragraph ⑥ the writer mainly |
- A argues that gender testing in the modern athletic world is so sophisticated that it accurately identifies the athletes who are illegally injected with testosterone to improve their performance.
- B complains that sports administration is not properly appreciated even though it often involves extremely complicated work.
- C criticizes the IOC for forcing a South African female athlete to undergo a gender test after she won the 800 meters World Championships.
- D describes the complexity of gender testing, which made the sports associations stop carrying out compulsory gender tests.
- E explains the relationship between chromosomes and gender distinctions, and the effects different patterns of chromosomes have on women.
- F illustrates how the number of women with XY chromosomes is increasing, which makes more women tall and lean in modern society.
- G outlines the history of gender testing by explaining how it was conducted in the late 1960s and how it was more widely used in the 1970s.
- H points out the fact that women with intersex conditions are more common than we think and argues for the importance of making this more widely recognized.
- I proposes that the IAAF should improve gender testing with more advanced medical technology, so that it can distinguish intersex from illegal hormone use.
- J states that although administrative jobs to organize sports events are normally done behind the scenes, they will suddenly attract attention when things go wrong.
- K tells us the way athletic associations decided to impose gender tests on a South African athlete and the controversy caused by the tests.

(2) Choose the ONE way to complete each of the sentences that is CORRECT according to the passage.

1 Caster Semenya

- A admitted that she had a hormone injection, which caused an unusually high level of testosterone in her blood.
- B criticized the IAAF and Athletics South Africa for performing gender tests before the World Championships in Berlin.
- C refused to take a gender test after she won the 800 meters World Championships in Berlin.
- D set her personal best both in the African Junior Championships and in the World Championships in the same year.
- E was disappointed that the IAAF failed to protect her privacy and openly announced the result of the gender test.

2 Gender tests

- A are still compulsory for the Olympic Games.
- B often fail to identify men's intersex characteristics.
- C revealed that more women have the Y chromosome than previously thought.
- D were developed in the late 1960s to prevent female athletes from taking illegal hormones.
- E were so humiliating that some female athletes refused to take them at the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

3 Women with XY chromosomes

- A are more numerous than previously thought.
- B are more widely found than women with XX chromosomes.
- C have been routinely banned from the Olympic Games.
- D number 15,000 in the U.K alone.
- E reach about two million people globally.

(3) Choose the ONE sentence that BEST summarizes the author's main argument in the passage.

- A At the moment, sports organizations including the IAAF fail to accommodate athletes with intersex characteristics, so it is time for them to establish a system where everyone can participate in competitions regardless of their genetic traits.
- B History tells us that it is always sexual minorities who suffer from prejudice in many areas of society, which makes us realize that even modern sports organizations such as the IAAF treat them unfairly.
- C Scientific evidence shows that the male and female gender distinction is far more clear-cut than previously thought, and society should appreciate the talents and appearance of people with intersex characteristics more.
- D Since there are so many people with intersex traits in society, we should acknowledge this third gender and build a society where they can take advantage of their physical features in such areas as fashion and athletics.
- E The story of Caster Semenya and the issues surrounding gender testing suggest that we know little about intersex and that such ignorance makes the lives of those with intersex characteristics harder.

(4) Choose the BEST way to complete each of these sentences about how the underlined words are used in the passage.

1 Here “margins” means

- A actions. B efforts. C gaps. D performances. E strides.

2 Here “speculation” means

- A admiration. B criticism. C devastation. D guesswork. E investment.

3 Here “culpable” means

- A acceptable. B disappointing. C guilty. D sensational. E surprising.

(5) Find the vowel with the strongest stress in each of these words, as used in the passage. Choose the ONE which is pronounced DIFFERENTLY in each group of five.

1 A administrator B characteristics C complicated

D manipulated E sophisticated

2 A bureaucracy B compulsory C conference

D consequences E photography

3 A allegedly B complexity C exponentially

D immediately E mechanisms

III Choose the BEST item from the box with which to fill the blanks in the passage below. You may use each item only ONCE.

A above	B against	C around	D down	E for	F in
G off	H out	I over	J through	K under	L up

She was just introverted, but her brother told her that people thought of her as being arrogant. He also said her behavior was turning people (1) and alienating them, so she needed to turn things (2). She was ready to turn (3) a new leaf and decided to be more sociable instead of always turning (4) invitations to parties. When her best friend organized a housewarming party, she turned (5), to everyone’s surprise. As it turned (6), they made her feel welcome, but the more closely she observed people, the more she realized how easily people turned (7) each other. This made her very uncomfortable, and she ended up wishing she had stayed home and turned (8) early with a good book.

IV Choose the underlined section in each text below that is INCORRECT. If the choices in the sentences are ALL correct, choose E.

(1) All players are in agreement that the main reason for the game was a disaster was

A

B

the absence of their star player who had been taken off the team without any notice.

C

D

E ALL CORRECT

(2) At a job fair a fortnight ago, in response to a question asked by more than a few people,

A

B

he stated in no uncertain terms that he felt good education needed to get into his line of work.

C

D

E ALL CORRECT

- (3) Faced with this catastrophe, the people had no choice but to depend on
A B
those who were willing to contribute to stop this situation.
C D
E ALL CORRECT
- (4) Had we visited the town prior to the economic boom,
A B
we could have bought this about ten dollars instead of paying an arm and a leg for it.
C D
E ALL CORRECT
- (5) It is most unfortunate that the company continued to set up hurdles one after another
A B
and it made her so difficult to seek a promotion that it drove her to hand in her resignation.
C D
E ALL CORRECT
- (6) Keen to press ahead with the rehearsals, the actors are ready to replace the director
A B
or even carry on without one if necessary.
C D
E ALL CORRECT

V Choose the BEST item from the box with which to fill the blanks in the passage below.

In the last two decades, precision telescopes have [1] us to see into the bright light of distant stars and detect the presence of planets. In 1995, astronomers discovered a planet orbiting a sun-like star about fifty light-years from Earth. For the first time in human [2], we knew for sure that ours is not the only solar system. The planet they found is huge, more than a hundred [3] the size of Earth. Yet, it orbits astonishingly [4] to its parent star. Its atmosphere is a scorching 1,300 degrees Celsius. Whipping around its star every four Earth days, the planet [5] everything we thought we knew about solar systems.

[Adapted from “Undiscovered Worlds,” *Secrets of the Universe*,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRxiRZeGpK4>]

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | A | allowed | B | committed | C | destined | D | revealed | E | taken |
| 2 | A | being | B | century | C | eternity | D | history | E | race |
| 3 | A | amount | B | percent | C | thousand | D | times | E | years |
| 4 | A | alive | B | close | C | immune | D | prone | E | superior |
| 5 | A | counted | B | defied | C | organized | D | possessed | E | surprised |

WRITING SECTION

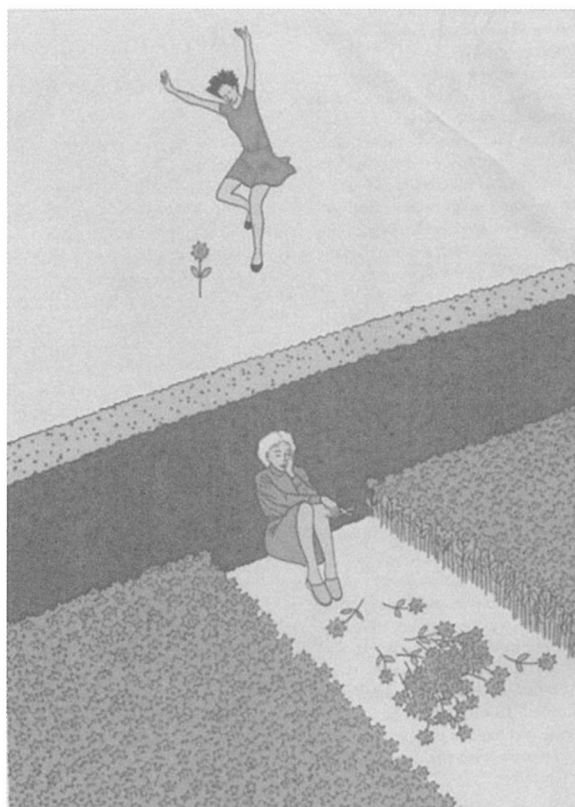
All answers must be written in English in the space provided on the ANSWER SHEET.

VI Use ALL the words and phrases provided in the underlined sections to complete the sentences to fit the context of the passage. Change the order as necessary. You may NOT change the form of the words. You may NOT include words that are not provided.

For many, the ocean is a place apart, a vast wilderness extending beyond our physical and psychological horizons, at once alien and indifferent, fascinating and compelling, and about which we know very little. But consider these facts: the ocean covers seventy-one percent of the Earth's surface; the ocean is a central element in the recycling and purification of fresh water; the ocean provides forty percent of the world's protein, especially in developing nations; are / dependent / for / livelihood / million / more / ocean / on / people / than / the / their / 200; ¹ sixty-five percent of the world's population lives within a hundred miles of an ocean coast. The essential / human / is / is / ocean / reality / survival / that / the / to, ² a primary source of food, water, climate, and community—immediate, universal, and undeniable. In short, the ocean is the determinant ecology in which we live—the sea connects all things.

[Adapted from Peter Neill, *The Once and Future Ocean* (2015).]

VII Write a paragraph in English explaining what this image means to you.



[Picture available at <https://pin.it/1gDzOMo>

This image is copyright protected. The copyright owner reserves all rights.]

〔以下余白〕